

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
NASHVILLE DIVISION

VICTOR GEORGE LITTLETON)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.) No.: 3:07-1075
) Judge Campbell
HOUSTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE)
Defendant.)

M E M O R A N D U M

The plaintiff, proceeding *pro se*, is an inmate at the Montgomery County Jail in Clarksville, Tennessee. He brings this action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 against Houston County, seeking unspecified relief.

The plaintiff was arrested in Houston County and charged with the theft of a motor vehicle and assault. He complains that the defendant has not yet arraigned him, appointed counsel or conducted a preliminary hearing to resolve the charges in violation of his right to due process.

A claim of governmental liability requires a showing that the misconduct complained of came about pursuant to a policy, statement, regulation, decision or custom promulgated by the defendant Houston County. Monell v. New York City Department of Social Services, 436 U.S. 658, 690-691 (1978). In short, for Houston County to be liable under § 1983, there must be a direct causal link between an official policy or custom and the alleged

constitutional violation. City of Canton v. Harris, 489 U.S. 378, 385 (1989).

The plaintiff has offered nothing to suggest that his rights were violated pursuant to a policy or regulation of Houston County that resulted in a delay in his criminal prosecution. Consequently, the plaintiff has failed to state a claim against the defendant.

In the absence of an actionable claim, the Court is obliged to dismiss the complaint *sua sponte*. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2).

An appropriate order will be entered.



Todd Campbell
United States District Judge